



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING/SPECIAL MEETING
FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2021 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met for a Public Hearing/Special Meeting on Friday, June 4, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Public Assembly. Present were Mayor J. Alan Holden, Mayor Pro Tem Gerald Brown; Commissioners Brian Murdock, Mike Sullivan, Pat Kwiatkowski and Rick Smith; Town Manager David W. Hewett; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; Fiscal Operations Supervisor Margaret Lancaster; Budget & Fiscal Analyst Daniel McRaney; Assistant Town Manager Christy Ferguson; Inspections Director Tim Evans; Public Works Director Chris Clemmons; Police Chief Jeremy Dixon; and Town Attorney Katie Madon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments were made.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 - 2022

Town Manager Hewett reviewed the budget schedule. There was a question asked at the last meeting regarding gas charges in the Police Department. Last year it was \$20,448. So far this year it is \$21,455.

The proposed budget reflects the changes resulting from the May 21st workshop. The body cameras were deleted from the Police Department. The Board wanted the Available to Appropriate funds moved over to partner with the American Recovery Plan money for a possible stormwater solution. The \$240,000 from the Governing Body coupled with the \$194,000 that we anticipate being received from the American Recovery Plan would be used to look at solving chronic stormwater problems on Ocean Boulevard.

The proposed budget satisfies all debt services which is approximately \$2.9 million; proposes a 20 cents tax rate; passes through a half a year of the county's \$2.36 per 1,000 wholesale water rate increase; contributes \$500,000 from the General Fund to the Beach and Inlet Capital Reserve Fund; and maintains a General Fund Balance in accordance with our Fiscal Policy, estimated at slightly above 40%. This budget executes a total of four FEMA beach projects, which together are close to \$46 million. It includes a 3% merit pool; provides for Seagull Street paving; procures a sanitation dump truck and an additional person plus a vehicle in inspections; and establishes drone services capabilities in the Inspections Department. The budget converts a part-time police administration position to fulltime; procures two replacement vehicles in the Police Department; and stands up the central square dispatch system. Additionally, it provides funds for a water and sewer replacement vehicle; and fully funds the

Fire Hydrant Replacement and Repair Program. The proposed budget contains funding for a water rate study and evaluation for a second water tower. It provides funding for the lift station 2 upfit, in addition to procuring a replacement generator for lift station 4. It maintains a shovel ready canal dredging project and provides for assorted walkway repairs. The matching share for the grant portion for the Ocean Boulevard bike path is in the proposed budget. The \$500,000 first year Town contribution for the Corps' Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project is also included. There are funds for the Lockwood Folly maintenance normal sidcaster dredge operations and the crossing sand project.

The public hearing was closed at 5:07 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND GREEN ENGINEERING FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR STRUCTURAL AND MECHANICAL MODIFICATIONS TO VACUUM SEWER PUMP STATION NUMBER 2

Public Works Director Clemmons said the proposed agreement for professional services for structural and mechanical work to sewer lift station #2 is before the Board for consideration. The engineer has proposed an aggressive schedule for the project as reflected in the proposed contract. The total for engineering services is \$255,990. The agreement appears standard and sufficient funds are currently budgeted to allow for its execution. Mr. Green from Green Engineering is in attendance to answer questions.

Commissioner Murdock said he expected the cost to be cheaper if the plans are the same as the previous ones. Mr. Green said it looks the same, but internally it is not (electrical requirements, pump horsepower changes, etc.) The architectural facility will look the same, but the guts will not. He said we have been fortunate with stations 3 and 4 that we had a good contractor. A big part of the proposal is the administration and construction supervision. This phase could be a nightmare. He talked about change orders. The Board thanked Mr. Green and discussed moving forward.

Motion by Commissioner Kwiatkowski that the Board approves the proposed agreement for professional services with Green Engineering PLLC; second by Mayor Pro Tem Brown; approved by unanimous vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11(A)(5), TO INSTRUCT STAFF OR AGENT CONCERNING THE NEGOTIATION OF THE PRICE AND TERMS OF A CONTRACT CONCERNING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY

Town Clerk Finnell read the reason for Executive Session.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Brown to go into Executive Session at 5:19 p.m.; second by Commissioner Murdock; approved by unanimous vote.

OPEN SESSION

The Board went into Open Session at 6:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Mayor Pro Tem Brown at 6:05 p.m.; second by Commissioner Smith; approved by unanimous vote.

J. Alan Holden, Mayor

ATTEST:

Heather Finnell, Town Clerk